



Phase II and Phase III Archeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18MO274

Site Name: Newton

Prehistoric ☒

Other name(s)

Historic ☐

Unknown ☐

Brief Description:

prehistoric base camp

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Latitude 39.0928 Longitude -76.9282

Elevation 131 m Site slope 0

Site setting

-Site Setting restricted

-Lat/Long accurate to within 1 sq. mile, user may need to make slight adjustments in mapping to account for sites near state/county lines or streams

Maryland Archeological Research Unit No. 12

SCS soil & sediment code

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site ☒

Underwater site ☐

Ethnobotany profile available ☐ Maritime site ☐

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Two tributaries of Little Pai

Saltwater

Ocean ☐

Estuary/tidal river ☐

Tidewater/marsh ☐

Spring ☐

Minimum distance to water is 610 m

Freshwater

Stream/river ☒

Swamp ☐

Lake or pond ☐

Spring ☐

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site ☐

Woodland site ☐

Archaic site ☐

MD Adena ☐

Early archaic ☐

Early woodland ☐

Middle archaic ☐

Mid. woodland ☐

Late archaic ☐

Late woodland ☐

Unknown prehistoric context ☒

Contact period site ☐

ca. 1820 - 1860 ☐

ca. 1630 - 1675 ☐

ca. 1860 - 1900 ☐

ca. 1675 - 1720 ☐

ca. 1900 - 1930 ☐

ca. 1720 - 1780 ☐

Post 1930 ☐

ca. 1780 - 1820 ☐

Unknown historic context ☐

Unknown context ☐

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

Native American ☐

Asian American ☐

African American ☐

Unknown ☐

Anglo-American ☐

Other ☐

Hispanic ☐

Y=Confirmed, P=Possible

Site Function Contextual Data:

Prehistoric

Multi-component ☐

Misc. ceremonial ☐

Village ☐

Rock art ☐

Hamlet ☐

Shell midden ☐

Base camp ☒

STU/lithic scatter ☐

Rockshelter/cave ☐

Quarry/extraction ☐

Earthen mound ☐

Fish weir ☐

Cairn ☐

Production area ☐

Burial area ☐

Unknown ☐

Other context ☐

Historic

Urban/Rural? ☐

Domestic

Homestead ☐

Farmstead ☐

Mansion ☐

Plantation ☐

Row/townhome ☐

Cellar ☐

Privy ☐

Industrial

Mining-related ☐

Quarry-related ☐

Mill ☐

Black/metalsmith ☐

Furnace/forge ☐

Other ☐

Transportation

Canal-related ☐

Road/railroad ☐

Wharf/landing ☐

Maritime-related ☐

Bridge ☐

Ford ☐

Educational

Commercial

Trading post ☐

Store ☐

Tavern/inn ☐

Military

Battlefield ☐

Fortification ☐

Encampment ☐

Townsite

Religious

Church/mtg house ☐

Ch support bldg ☐

Burial area

Cemetery ☐

Sepulchre ☐

Isolated burial ☐

Bldg or foundation

Possible Structure ☐

Post-in-ground ☐

Frame-built ☐

Masonry ☐

Other structure ☐

Slave related

Non-domestic agri

Recreational

Midden/dump ☐

Artifact scatter ☐

Spring or well ☐

Unknown ☐

Other context ☐

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken ☐

N

Flotation samples taken ☒

Other samples taken ☐

Historic context samples

Soil samples taken ☐

Flotation samples taken ☐

Other samples taken ☐



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Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types	
Clovis	<input type="text"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="text"/>
Palmer	<input type="text"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="text"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="text"/>
Le Croy	<input type="text"/>
Morrow Mntn	<input type="text"/>
Guilford	<input type="text"/>
Brewerton	<input type="text"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="text"/>
Koens-Crispin	<input type="text"/>
Perkiomen	<input type="text"/>
Susquehanna	<input type="text"/>
Vernon	<input type="text"/>
Piscataway	<input type="text"/>
Calvert	<input type="text"/>
Selby Bay	<input type="text"/>
Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="text"/>
Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="text"/>
Madison/Potomac	<input type="text"/>
Levanna	<input type="text"/>

Prehistoric Sherd Types

Marcey Creek	<input type="text"/>	Popes Creek	<input type="text"/>	Shepard	<input type="text"/>	Keyser	<input type="text"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="text"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="text"/>	Townsend	<input type="text"/>	Yeocomico	<input type="text"/>
Selden Island	<input type="text"/>	Watson	<input type="text"/>	Minguanan	<input type="text"/>	Monongahela	<input type="text"/>
Accokeek	<input type="text"/>	Mockley	<input type="text"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="text"/>	Susquehannock	<input type="text"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="text"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="text"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="text"/>		
Vinette	<input type="text"/>	Page	<input type="text"/>	Moyaone	<input type="text"/>		
				Potomac Cr	<input type="text"/>		

Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware	Ironstone	<input type="text"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="text"/>	Stoneware	
Astbury	Jackfield	<input type="text"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="text"/>	English Brown	<input type="text"/>
Borderware	Mn Mottled	<input type="text"/>	Whiteware	<input type="text"/>	Eng Dry-bodie	<input type="text"/>
Buckley	North Devon	<input type="text"/>	Porcelain	<input type="text"/>	Nottingham	<input type="text"/>
Creamware	Pearlware	<input type="text"/>			Rhenish	<input type="text"/>
					Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="text"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts	
Flaked stone	71
Ground stone	<input type="text"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="text"/>
Fire-cracked rock	1
Other lithics (all)	<input type="text"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="text"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="text"/>
Other fired clay	<input type="text"/>
Human remain(s)	<input type="text"/>
Modified faunal	<input type="text"/>
Unmod faunal	<input type="text"/>
Oyster shell	<input type="text"/>
Floral material	<input type="text"/>
Uncommon Obj.	<input type="text"/>
Other	<input type="text"/>

Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)	<input type="text"/>	Storage/trash pit	<input type="text"/>
Midden	<input type="text"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="text"/>
Shell midden	<input type="text"/>	Ossuary	<input type="text"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="text"/>	Unknown	<input type="text"/>
House pattern(s)	<input type="text"/>	Other	<input type="text"/>
Palisade(s)	<input type="text"/>		
Hearth(s)	<input type="text"/>		
Lithic reduc area	<input type="text"/>		

Lithic Material

Jasper	<input type="text"/>	Fer quartzite	<input type="text"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="text"/>
Chert	<input type="text"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="text"/>	European flint	<input type="text"/>
Rhyolite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="text"/>	Basalt	<input type="text"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="text"/>	Unknown	<input type="text"/>
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="text"/>	Other	<input type="text"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="text"/>		

☐ Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts	
Pottery (all)	<input type="text"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="text"/>
Architectural	<input type="text"/>
Furniture	<input type="text"/>
Arms	<input type="text"/>
Clothing	<input type="text"/>
Personal items	<input type="text"/>
Tobacco related	<input type="text"/>
Activity item(s)	<input type="text"/>
Human remain(s)	<input type="text"/>
Faunal material	<input type="text"/>
Misc. kitchen	<input type="text"/>
Floral material	<input type="text"/>
Misc.	<input type="text"/>
Other	<input type="text"/>

Historic Features

Privy/outhouse	<input type="text"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="text"/>	Unknown	<input type="text"/>
Const feature	<input type="text"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="text"/>	Other	<input type="text"/>
Foundation	<input type="text"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="text"/>		
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="text"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="text"/>		
Hearth/chimney	<input type="text"/>	Planting feature	<input type="text"/>		
Postholes/molds	<input type="text"/>	Road/walkway	<input type="text"/>		
Paling ditch/fence	<input type="text"/>				

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Radiocarbon Data:

Sample 1:	<input type="text"/> +/- <input type="text"/> years BP	Reliability	Sample 2:	<input type="text"/> +/- <input type="text"/> years BP	Reliability	Sample 3:	<input type="text"/> +/- <input type="text"/> years BP	Reliability
Sample 4:	<input type="text"/> +/- <input type="text"/> years BP	Reliability	Sample 5:	<input type="text"/> +/- <input type="text"/> years BP	Reliability	Sample 6:	<input type="text"/> +/- <input type="text"/> years BP	Reliability
Sample 7:	<input type="text"/> +/- <input type="text"/> years BP	Reliability	Sample 8:	<input type="text"/> +/- <input type="text"/> years BP	Reliability	Sample 9:	<input type="text"/> +/- <input type="text"/> years BP	Reliability

☐ Additional radiocarbon results available



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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

☐ Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Newton Site (18MO274) is a prehistoric short-term use campsite or possibly a base camp. The site is located near the Burtonsville area of Montgomery County, Maryland. It is situated in the backyard of a modern residence amid the low rolling hills that characterize the local Piedmont and Western Coastal Plain. Two tributary streams of the Little Paint Branch flow near the site. The site's soils are Sassafras loam.

The site first came to the attention of archeologists in the fall of 1986 during a Phase I survey prior to the expansion of US Route 29. Surface survey was conducted within the construction project right-of-way in the vicinity of 18MO274. The site was noted within a freshly plowed backyard garden. Artifacts collected from the garden included 1 quartz biface (non-diagnostic), 3 quartz biface fragments, 2 quartz secondary flakes, 9 quartz chunks, 2 quartz pieces of shatter, and 1 rhyolite chunk. Based on the limited amount of information available and given that construction plans endangered the site, Phase II testing was recommended to determine if the site had any significant research potential.

Phase II investigations were carried out in April of 1988, consisting of a controlled surface collection, 19 systematically arranged shovel test pits, and three 1 X 1 meter excavation units. Surface collection and shovel test pit (STP) excavation were used to define the horizontal limits of cultural materials, while excavation units were used to establish its vertical boundaries and find subsurface cultural features. The contextual integrity of the cultural materials was evaluated from information obtained in the excavation of 1 meter units. Determination of intrasite artifact patterns, if present, was established from a synthesis of all three. The controlled surface collection on a 2 X 2 m grid was restricted to the limits of the cultivated garden. Beyond the garden, surface visibility was impaired by ground cover, so a systematic pattern of 50 cm diameter STPs placed at 10 m intervals out from the edge of the garden. If artifacts were recovered from an STP, a second was placed 10 m away from the last. Testing was to continue until no artifacts were recovered on each line of testing. These tests were dug to a depth of 10 cm into culturally sterile subsoil and were excavated by natural soil layers and cultural deposits. Results revealed that the site's horizontal limits conformed roughly to the boundaries of the cultivated garden.

One meter square excavation units were placed in areas where the greatest cultural activity was indicated from the surface and STP surveys. Units were dug by natural soil and cultural depositional layers; where a layer's depth exceeded 10 cm, it was divided into levels not exceeding this dimension. Excavation continued through cultural deposits to a depth of 10 cm into sterile subsoil. Most artifacts throughout the site were recovered from a plowzone context, and no subsurface cultural features were found.

Artifacts consisted solely of debris related to the manufacture of lithic tools and weapons; no finished artifacts were found. Temporally/culturally diagnostic artifact types were not recovered, thus prohibiting the establishment of a site history and determination of cultural affiliation. Surface artifact distribution consisted of two low frequency clusters of quartz chunks, flakes, and discarded unfinished biface fragments. The complete artifact assemblage consisted of 1 quartzite biface fragment, 4 quartz biface fragments, 2 quartz cores, 6 retouched quartz flakes, 1 quartz primary flake, 4 quartz secondary flakes, 6 quartz tertiary flakes, 9 quartz chunks with cortex, 1 quartzite chunk with cortex, 19 quartz chunks, and 1 piece of fire-cracked rock.

Because of the lack of artifacts with temporal or cultural attributes, the disturbed context of cultural materials, and the absence of subsurface features, 18MO274 is considered to have limited research value. Additional investigations will only duplicate existing information and not make a significant contribution to the archeological record of Montgomery County.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006191